

THE

C A S E

OF THE

L A T E R E S I G N A T I O N

S E T I N A

T R U E L I G H T.

T H E
C A S E
O F T H E
L A T E R E S I G N A T I O N
S E T I N A
T R U E L I G H T.

Periculosum privati Hominis Nomen supra Principis attolli.

Tacit. Agric.



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S E T I N I T S
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THE press has its paroxysms, it seems: it sometimes sleeps and sometimes rages: at least, it is thus with it in political matters . . . Some little time ago we were all of us perfect quietists . . . Resigned to whatever might befall us, and so full of confidence in our State-Pilots, that we had not the least apprehension of any thing amiss to befall us.

Or if any little symptom of perturbation appeared, it regarded chiefly the Terms of Peace; which we were so perfectly satisfied were in our *own power*, that all the difference amongst us was, about what delicious morsels we should prefer for our own gratification, and what Offal we should drop in mercy to our vanquished enemy.

But now we are all in ferment again: every day the press teems with new productions of various and contradictory tendencies, and every Conversation begins or ends with controversy . . . So that, instead of having but one voice, and one purpose, every writer, nay, every talker, is become a leader, and expects to be acknowledged accordingly.

The occasion in brief is this . . . *One* Minister has thought fit to withdraw himself from the Public-Service at such a time, in such a way, and for such

a consideration, as have given his adversaries very apparent advantages over him; which, as it is natural they should, they are improving to the utmost . . . While, on the other hand, his friends, with a partiality yet more criminal, seem determined to extol his very Mistakes (if they may be called by so mild a name) into Virtues and to throw the State into convulsions, rather than not have him gratified to the Hight of his Ambition, even at the Expence of the Constitution itself, which ought, at all times, to be esteemed the most sacred of all things.

Much has already been said on both sides: and yet, in my humble opinion, much more remains to be said . . . The incident, is undoubtedly a melancholy one: our enemies rejoice in it; and were there no other reason, that alone ought to be held a most cogent one, for uniting our warmest endeavours to diminish the ill effects of it as much as possible.

To set it in its true Light, seems to be the nearest way to this desirable end . . . When opinions are once settled, measures may be settled too . . . or in other words, when the merits of a case are fully known, it will be our own faults if all controversy concerning it is not brought to an end of course.

To come at the merits of the case then, something must be premised concerning the Merits of the Man.

Parts and Accomplishments, Virtues and Services, or, if you please, Successes, constitute Merits: and if we may measure causes by effects, we must be forced to allow him a very ample Share . . . For who, before him, ever obtained such a personal influence in parliament, or such an absolute ascendancy in our councils? And who can be at liberty to suppose, that such his pre-eminence was rather the result of timidity and abjection in the rest, than of positive excellence in him? . . . Besides, it is the general persuasion, that the vigour of his mind was felt in our fleets and armies the very moment he obtained the direction of our councils: that those who received his instructions became heroes in obeying them; and that in succeeding contrary to their own expectations, they did honour to the fortune of his administration at least.

Should it be urged, that I take care to be guarded in all I say, I plead, that I have a right to be so, which I can prove when I please . . . But, on the
other

other hand, I will be explicate in acknowledging, that to him it is chiefly owing, that we no longer stand in awe of the boasted superiority of France: That, from a merely mercantile, we are once more exalted into a military nation; and that the present pages of our annals, may vie in splendor, at least, with those we are the proudest of. . . . So that the Character in question may be truly reckoned an extraordinary one, and, consequently, is entituled to an extraordinary degree of attention and consideration.

But such is the universal tendency to excess, that whether we love or hate, praise or censure, it is always in extremes. . . .

Thus, in the case before us, we no sooner resolved to fall in love with the *Minister*, because he had recommended himself to us as a *Patriot*, than we proceeded on at once to intoxication and idolatry; by heaping on him such flatteries from the press, as no subject ever endured before; by complimenting him with Corporation-Freedoms inclosed in Boxes of Gold, and devoting Edifices to his Name; nay, by sanctifying all he said or did; allowing him to falsify all he had avowed, in rendering British Folly as conspicuous on one continent, as British Valour on the other; to supersede, or, at least, to concenter in himself alone all the democratical powers of the constitution; to subject all the ministerial to the execution of his sole will and pleasure; and even to encourage such trespasses on the regal, that it is notorious, he came to be discoursed of, and looked up to, as the only efficient of the state: so that little remained for the Sovereign, but his Royal Name.

In virtue of which ridiculous conduct, we taught one another not only to believe, but, in a manner, to glory in what would have been one of the most affecting curses that could have befallen us; namely, That we had but *one* Great Man left among us, when we had occasion for so *many*. . . . A doctrine equally impolitic and pernicious, equally humiliating to ourselves, and encouraging to our enemies; and what our common ballads, as well as the common sense which inspired them, have, for ages past, authorised us to explode! . . . Witness *Chevy Chase*, and the speech of the King therein on the death of *Piercy*.

Now God be with him, said our King,
Sith 'twill no better be,
I trust I have within my realm
Five hundred as good as he.

Nay,

Nay, it would be no unreasonable surmise, that this doctrine was not more palatable than mischievous even to the minister himself who was the bloated subject of it.

A hint on the inebriating nature of popular applause may serve instead of an argument : every body knows, that the more delight we take in it, the more we are in danger of being subdued by it. . . . So that, unless we can suppose, that he was directed by some motive more dark and inexcusable, we must be forced to admit, that the power of the cup was too mighty for him.

Having been used to see his fellow-subjects at his heels, or his feet, as he chose to have them, (alike to the diminution and disparagement of the crown) he might possibly suffer himself to be seduced into a persuasion, that his voice was the voice of the nation ; and if so, that no negative could lie against it. . . . Whence the transition was but too easy to those excesses which have destroyed all opinion of his discretion ; and so far at least put him into a state of disqualification for the very trust he aspired to.

When therefore we contemplate the abilities of Mr. *Pitt*, or recollect the exploits performed under his administration, we may rationally regret his loss . . . But when we turn the tables, and reflect on our own infatuations with regard to him, and his with regard to us, I think it might prompt us to be extremely cautious and modest in our reasonings and decisions concerning him.

I shall not undertake a revision of his public conduct, unless the phrenzy of the times should render it necessary. . . . But I think a hint or two in passing, just to shew, that it has partaken of human frailty, may not be altogether unseasonable or unserviceable.

Thus, with regard to the attempts made on the coast of France which he set out with, (while the war in America slept under Lord *L—*, thro' the want of a *naval* force, for the attack of Louisburg, which was to have been the object of the year) had he looked into Sir Walter Raleigh, who passed, in his time, for a tolerable judge of these matters, he would have found this blunt assertion ; “ That without a port of our own, all invasions are foolish.” . . . And if into the Journals of the House of Commons, he might have been the better for the following passage out of a letter from Admiral *Russel* to Lord Nottingham, like himself, an enterprising Secretary of State.

“ I will say no more, than that, in my opinion, with submission to better judgments, burning a town in France is of no more consequence to them, than an accidental fire at *Knightbridge* is to us. . . . It is an unspeakable trouble to me, to see we thus *expose* our country.”

And, in casting ones eyes towards *Germany*, I think one may venture to pronounce, that if a less popular Minister, who might be named, had committed half the trespasses on his own professions to the public, or given into half the continental concessions provable upon him, he might, possibly, have been the Martyr of popular resentment.

Indeed; astonishing it will be to posterity, that a nation so extremely punctilious as this is known to be, should remain not only passive, but even insensible, when a Duke of Marlborough—Earl of Sunderland—and Knight of the Garter, was appointed to command a body of British forces, in an army chiefly paid with British money, under a minor Prince of the Empire; when the instance was so notorious, that this very Dukes grandfather had, in Germany, divided the command of the whole confederate army with the Prince of Baden, and Prince Eugene of Savoy, commanders in chief *both* for the Emperor and Empire. . . .

I hasten now to the incident itself, which has thrown us into such a sudden agitation, and of which I shall discourse as briefly as possible, because it has been the subject of so much discourse already.

Our affairs in Germany were in a most unpromising state: our hopes of prescribing a peace to France evaporated: the temper of a new parliament was to be tried; and, how profusely soever they might be disposed to grant, it depended on the State of Public-Credit, and the Caprices of the Public Creditors, whether those grants should be made good or not, when this enterprizing Genius entertained a notion, that by broaching a *new* war, we should become more able to support the *old*; or in other words, that *two* wars were more easily maintained than *one*.

To the council-board he brings this his paradoxical Plan, fortified with all the circumstances which could give it force and efficacy either within doors or without, and prevails on Lord T——, his ally, to espouse it with as much warmth as himself. . . . But in vain . . . The other Lords, conceiving the proposition to be an extravagant one, and many other ways objec-
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tionable, for once revolt . . . Upon which he throws up his Office, and renounces the Service ; but accepts of a Reward . . . This soon transpiring, tho' in an unprecise manner, the Public were as quick in their Censures, as in their Suspicions ; which served him as a pretext at least, for committing that Complication of Errors, if they were Errors, already alluded to and complained of . . .

For, not content with the bold piece of Practice just specified, his Impetuosity led him to furnish a City-Friend with such a Letter for his Justification, as all his own Eloquence, I am afraid, will never be able to justify.

I will not do him so ill an office as to repeat the whole of this absurdity ; and if I select that part, which, as a Minister and a Patriot, will affect him most, it will be in hopes of convincing him, and his headlong followers, that the farther they proceed in the dangerous way they are in, the more they will expose themselves, and the more mischief they will have to answer for.

“ A difference of opinion with regard to measures to be taken *against* Spain, of the highest importance to the honour of the Crown, and to the most essential national Interests ; and this founded on what Spain had *already* done, not on what that court may hereafter *intend* to do, was the cause of my resigning the Seals. Lord T—— and I submitted in writing, and signed by us, our most humble sentiments to his Majesty, which being over-ruled by the united opinion of all the rest of the King's Servants, I resigned the Seals on Monday the 5th of this month, in order not to remain *responsible* for measures, which I was no longer *allowed to guide*.”

Now, it may seem strange to assert in the same breath, that *much too much* is communicated in this epistolary crudity, and that *much* is nevertheless *wanting* . . . This, however, I do venture to assert ; and am under no great pain about solving the seeming inconsistency.

For, notwithstanding Mr. Pitt's plea, that he was under a *necessity* of making his case public for the *honour of truth*, the *necessity* so insisted upon, except it was a *factious Necessity*, still remains to be proved.

To his Royal Master, it must be understood, that he had done his best to acquit himself already If he was accountable to Parliament, it was in Parliament his Defence was to be made : and it is a very new doctrine that a Minister is to put himself upon his Country, for having resigned his Office.

Besides, he seems willing to suppose, that none but the *credulous*, *ungenerous*, and *capricious*, could entertain unworthy thoughts of him : and the censures of such as those he seems to hold in disdain and contempt.

Where then was this *Necessity* of divulging *Secrets of State* for his exculpation ? Would not Truth have manifested herself by her own light, if Time had been left to do an office which, in such cases, he rarely omits ? And how comes it, that the *Urgency* was never brought into question at all ?

There is a Point of Honour which is the Seal of private Conversation : there are innumerable other considerations to seal up the Lips of Ministers, and more especially of Patriot Ministers, on such important Topics as these : and there is, moreover, the pressure of a positive Oath, which, one would think, was, in all its parts, indispensable.

The Privy Counsellor is sworn, to keep *secret* the Kings Councils, and binds himself not only *not* to publish or discover it by word, writing, or otherwise, but also to strengthen and help the said Council in all that shall be *thought* to the same Council for the universal Good of the King and his Land, and for the *Peace, Rest, and Tranquility* of the same.

Thus the *Necessity* pleaded seems, as yet, to be wholly on the other Side—Nay more, from the contents of this oath we learn, that, instead of any *one* Member's being intitled in any case to take the *sole Guidance* of the Kings Council upon *himself alone*, it is, in the strongest manner, provided, that the *Sense* of the *Majority* shall be a *Law* to the *Rest* : as also, that all considerations whatsoever shall be postponed to the service of the Sovereign, and the peace and welfare of the community.

And was it in the nature of things, that either the one or the other could be benefited by this *intemperate publication* ?

Both

Both Mr. Pitt and his adherents could glory in the *national harmony* which had subsisted during his administration: and well they might, considering how much it had contributed to his boasted successes.

Where then is the reason, equity, or conscience of using any means to weaken that efficacious principle, because Mr. Pitt has chosen to throw himself out of place, power, &c. ? unless he is become ambitious of making a new stand on opposition, falsely called Patriot-Ground, in order to secure himself in future, the *Despotism* he has, for the present, been deprived of.

If so indeed the secret is out; and the *Necessity* at last apparent of his making some such Publication as should not only remove all Doubts and Suspensions concerning his future Conduct, but also re-establish him in the good graces of the *City* on more specious terms, if possible, than before.

And would any expedient have answered better than the Renewal of the old Clamour *against* Spain? For *against* Spain special care is taken to shew, that the Current of his Advice ran—as also, that such his Advice was founded on what *that Court had already done*, not what it might, *hereafter, intend to do*.

Now this is what I call communicating *much too much* That there had been a difference of opinions in the Kings Councils on a point of such moment to the *Honour* of the *Crown*, and the most essential national Interests, ought *not* to have been communicated at all by any individual whatsoever But if communicated, the Grounds and Reasons of such Difference, in the *entire*, should have been communicated too . . . Any man may put himself in the right, as far as a half-verdict will go, by telling half a story—and Mr. Pitt has manifestly told no more; so that it follows of course, that he has communicated *too little*, as well as *too much*.

It is customary, it seems, for the *City-Senate* to settle opinions and count noses at a certain Tavern, before they venture to open their debates in form: and when the *Resignation* and *Reward* (which, by the way, were matters they had as little to do with, as with the Robes of the Gar-
ter)

ter) came to be, in this preparatory manner, discussed by them, it was found, there would be a wreck of *popularity*, in case what should be deemed a sufficient exculpatory from the imputation of a *Bargain*, was not laid before them.

And thus the *Necessity*, which, considered in another light, appeared to be totally inadmissible, not only becomes manifest, but serves also to account for every subsequent operation.

At least, a mixture of Apprehension on one hand, and perhaps of Intoxication on the other, gave rise to the Letter to the *City-Friend* before instanced, and also bespoke the Answer to it; if that which I have here and before called an Answer, was not a hint to bespeak the Letter.

This City-Friend, it is said, was Mr. *Townclerk*, or, if you please, Mr. Orator *Hodges*: a person from hence forward to be esteemed the *Voice* of the *City*, in like manner as the Great Man who unbosoms himself to him, had been esteemed the *Voice* of the *Kingdom*! For in the name of the said City the said Answer was returned: and all the extravagant things contained in it are expressed with as much confidence as if dictated by the whole Common Council.

I do not repeat, because I would not nauseate . . . It is enough to recollect, that Mr. Pitt is represented in it, as our Redeemer and Saviour, Protector and Preserver . . . as having rescued us from Ruin, and advanced us to the Summit of Prosperity, Wealth, and Glory: as having reduced our Enemies to such a state of Impotence and Misery, that they were driven by their very *Despair* to *sue* to *us* for a Peace, which they might have *had*, but their *Haughtiness* would not suffer them to accept of: and as having done all these wonders by his own Parts, Powers, and Resources: for so it must be understood; as neither King, Parliament, People, Fleet, Army, or even Providence itself, are so much as mentioned in it.

To the Press this modest *Certificate* or *Under-Writing* of Mr. *Townclerk's* was immediately conveyed; not as a Hint, but a Lesson to other Corporations . . . But, by this time, the adversary had found his way to the Press likewise: untoward comments on what had passed appeared in the

News-Papers every Day ; so that something yet more authoritative was held expedient to qualify the bitterness they abounded with.

Again, therefore, the *City-Senate* was applied to ; and they having been by this time, re-animated with a double portion of their former Spirit, the effects of it were made manifest in certain *Instructions* to their Representatives in Parliament ; calculated, one would think (if all the Obligations of Duty, *Gratitude*, and even common Decency, were not first to be trampled under foot) to excite an expectation, that he who had just received a *Recompence* for his *own* Services, might, nevertheless, be prevailed upon to obstruct the services of *others* . . . For in one clause the *Treasury*, which, in complaisance to the public opinion, had been so blindly subservient to his wildest Projects, is, in a particular manner, pointed out to them, as a Province where Opposition may first fasten itself to advantage . . . And in a second, all possible care is taken to render the *great* and *necessary* work of *Peace-making* as difficult as possible in *other* hands, because it had proved impracticable in *his*.

All which is so much the more worthy of notice, because, in the very next paragraph, they affect to put the present *happy Extinction of Parties* and the *Harmony* and *Unanimity* of *all* his Majesty's Subjects among the *Proofs* they are pleased to enumerate, that this Nation is still *able* to carry on the present *just* and *necessary War*.

But, not to lay any greater stress on this inference than it will naturally bear, the same *Senate* are again made use of to gratify Mr. Pitt with a Vote of *Thanks* for the many great and important Services rendered this Nation during his Administration, &c. as also with another Vote of *Lamentation*, for the national Loss of so able and faithful a Minister at so *critical a Juncture*.

And now we have the proper clue to carry us back to that part of this *only* Great Mans Letter in which he so frankly acknowledges, that he resigned the Seals because an opinion of *his* had been *over-ruled* by the *Rest* of the Kings Servants : and because he would not be *responsible* for Measures he was no *longer allowed to* GUIDE.

For

For by this it appears undeniably, That the Measure thus *lamented* was *his own*: That the *criticalness* of the *junction* had not the least weight with him; that he resigned because his *infallibility* was for *once* called in question, and because the *rest* of the King's *Servants* could not bring themselves to make an absolute surrender of their reason, conscience, honour, to his *direction*.

This, I say, is his own *spontaneous* acknowledgment in print: And it follows, That whatever was the unhappiness to be *lamented*, or the *criminality* to be condemned in this transaction, belonged to himself only.

The over-ruling his opinion did not remove him out of the service. He might have stayed in his *rank*, though not as *Lord-Paramount* Those *humble* sentiments of his presented in writing to the King would have served him as a preservative against all sinister events, if not made an addition to his importance and his fame The Measure *against* Spain was not the only Measure of moment depending On the contrary, there was an Electorate Measure, and a Prussian Measure, each of the most pressing kind, and both having very peculiar claims upon him to bring them to an issue of some kind or other.

Would his passions, therefore, have suffered him to remain in his Office *on equal terms*, with his *Fellow-Servants*, no doubt his advice and assistance would have been gladly accepted of (no body having any reason to be proud of succeeding to the difficulties which he had despaired of conquering :) And as he could not but foresee the disturbance his rash and precipitate retreat was like to create, I know not how these *Lamenters* can furnish themselves with a pretence to excuse it.

The opinion conceived of him at home, the apprehension entertained of him abroad, rendered him a valuable servant: This was known, considered, and confessed; and tho' *Government* refused to be stormed, it did not forget to reward.

And now let me ask these Gentlemen-Citizens themselves, (who are so forward to take the privilege of *thanksgiving* out of the hands of the House of Commons, or, at least, anticipate the use of it, and to play the parts of so many *Jeremiahs* at the feet of this haughty Seceder) whether, and what, they would have had *Government* do more?

Surely

Surely they would not have wished to proceed on any such plan, as that imputed by the wags of King Charles's Court, in the following mock Address, to the Parliaments of those times.

In all humility we crave
Our Sovereign may be our slave ;
And humbly hope, that he may be
Betray'd by us most loyally :
And if he pleases to lay down
His sceptre, dignity and crown,
We'll make him for the time to come
The greatest Prince in Christendom.

The answer composed for this, will, and ought to be, the answer on every similar occasion.

Charles at this time having no need,
Thanks you . . . as much as if he did.

And the Common Council is, at least, as open to ridicule as the Commons of England.

. . . But waving this little start of levity ; could Government have kept itself in countenance, if it had done any more ? Would it have become the K—— for example, (when told so cavalierly to his face, by this *only Great Man*, That he left the service because his fellow-servants would not allow him to be any longer their *Master* in *his* stead,) to have besought him to keep his place on such injurious and inglorious terms ? Nay, would it not have been a sort of self-deposition, if he had done so ?

It is *not* altogether unguessable, That his M—— had his scruples with regard to the violent Measure thus violently pressed, as well as his Ministers . . . And, if so, it is plain, that even *he* was expected to *renounce* them, and to truckle to this *All-sufficient* as well as they.

Besides, who knows but that even a condescension of this unroyal nature might have been made in vain ? Who knows, that the Pilot did not leave the helm, because, conscious, he could neither keep the ship at sea in a manner suitable to his own vaunts, or bring her into a safe harbour ?
Or

Or that his whole plan of conduct on this occasion was not *contrived* to cover his retreat?

It is a fine thing to raise expectation, but 'tis a dreadful one not to gratify it And, therefore, 'tis no unreasonable doubt, Whether he, who set such a value on *gloss* or *appearance* would have compounded, on any terms, to carry on a process, which, in the end, might have laid him *open* to the very *Core*.

Upon the whole, Gentlemen, you seem to have made a small mistake in your politics . . . Ministers, you see, are *moveables*: Kings are *fixtures*: Make use of a Minister, if you can, where you have no hopes of a King; and employ popularity as an engine to controule the excesses of Royalty!

But when you have a King who desires and designs to make a *popular* use of his Royalty; and who calls upon you to concur with him in your own service, you defeat and injure yourselves, when you force a *mate* upon him; you disappoint, and consequently chagrine him; and if there is not more of the angel than the mortal in his composition, you may, possibly, weary him out of the most gracious of his purposes.

To suppose you are deluded and misled by a *writer*, as empty of all true political knowledge, as he is bold in his efforts to excite clamour and sedition, would be to pay you a very ill compliment indeed.

And yet the countenance he has met with amongst you would almost authorise some such suspicion.

It is a year since the K—— has sat on the Throne, (whether he has so long had the sway of his own sceptre or not) and scarce a week has passed, during the whole interval, in which this officious Penman has not either attempted to bring the *sincerity* of his M——y's intentions into question; given himself the airs of one qualified to be his *Monitor* and *Tutor*; transfer'd, to *one* of his Ministers in the most injurious and fulsome terms (as in his paper of Oct. 24) all the merit and glory of his *reign*; or else endeavoured to render it as thorny as possible, by sowing in the minds of his subjects all the seeds of turbulence and mischief.

Proofs in abundance are at hand in the papers themselves . . . But the game is not worth the shot . . . And therefore, the little chastisement I shall now bestow upon him, will be solely for your sakes.

In the paper just cited, he makes use of the word *Lewis-dor* (a word of his own coining, and made use of by him as false coin always is, to cheat the unwary) to convey an idea, that he durst not avow; for fear of the punishments justly impending over the heads of those, who dare to abuse the most invaluable of privileges, that of the Press! . . . He would have us believe, that Mr. Pitt was treated with *indignity* and *contempt* by the *triumphing advocates* for a *pacific forbearance*; and that, therefore, and because he would not be made the tool of a *treacherous* and inglorious peace, he resigned . . . That the confidence reposed in that egregious Minister had induced the nation to grant those supplies chearfully, which they had *before* disputed *every shilling* of, because suspecting they would be applied to unconstitutional purposes . . . That nothing but the *domestic obstacles* and *impediments* thrown into the way of our *vigorous Measures* could have prevented the destruction of *all* the French coast, and opened a way to the *gates of Versailles*, &c. &c.

You have here a string of *falsehoods*, Gentlemen; and I will produce the fellow of it immediately . . .

No administration upon record was ever so clear of *domestic obstacles* and *impediments*, or furnished with such a super-abundance of *facilities* as Mr. Pitts.

To the very best of my recollection, the supplies were granted as freely and chearfully *before* he came into office, as they have been since; and, instead of having any *indignity* or *contempt* to complain of, he has a thousand acquiescences and even obligations to acknowledge, which remain unacknowledged at this day; and will remain, in all probability, uncanceled for ever.

You will give me credit, I hope, Gentlemen, for the last article; and I appeal to yourselves for the truth of the two former.

In his last paper (of the 31st) he asserts, *Great Britain* was not only treated with *disdain* and *contempt* in *Bussy's* memorial concerning the demands

mands of *Spain*, but held at *defiance*, and *threatened* with the *compulsive arms* of that court added to *his own* . . . That memorial is now public, and there is not one word of *defiance*, *contempt*, or *disdain* in it. . . . It is, as *any body* may see, an insidious *inadmissible* paper, if you please, and of a piece with the usual course of French policy . . . It talks of *fears*, but carefully avoids *menaces* . . . It says, the King of *Spain* had *confided* to his Majesty (of *France*) the *three* points of *discussion* between *Great Britain* and *Spain* . . . But it does not so much as insinuate, that he is *authorized* by his *Catholic Majesty* to *insist* upon them, much less to *implicate* them by way of *common cause* with his own. Nay, it seems reasonable to conclude, That it was rather an *Experiment* than a *Measure* ; because we are told, it was never recurred to any more. It follows, that a procedure by way of *fact* against *Spain*, before a *categorical* explication had been *demandèd* and *refused* (which, possibly, the *difference* of *opinion* turned upon) would have been the *maddest procedure* that can be conceived.

Let Mr. *Pitt* then enjoy the honour of it and welcome ! . . . But do not suffer such an abandoned Tool as this to tell you (as he has wickedly and impudently done) “ That because he (Mr. *Pitt*) was not to be *mollified* or “ *terrified*, he was to be *sacrificed* to the interests of *France*.”

I do not pretend to know what temper Government is in, Gentlemen ; but I believe no government was ever *so* insulted with impunity before.

But this is not all, Gentlemen: he would have you understand, that Mr. *Pitt*, had made *vast Preparations* both by *Sea* and *Land* ; and concerted suitable plans for employing them, which had *not* been *suffered* to be *put in execution* during the negotiation of *Buffy* . . . I made use of the word *Falsified* above ; and if I was to make use of a *broader* here, be assured, that I could sufficiently justify it . . . Mr. *Buffy's* artifices made *no alterations* in any of our plans ; or if they did, Mr. *Pitt* himself is the only person to account for them : the *direction* having remained in him, till he was resolved to have it by *advance* without *bound* or *limit*.

Lastly, As to the mischief resulting to our Public Affairs from the sojournment of that Minister among us, which is made another *declamatory topic*, consider and determine for yourselves, gentlemen, whether it was in his power, in Doctor *Hensley's* power, or the power of any *other French* spy, how well concealed or qualified soever, to do more than the very

Goose quill, which has been thus iniquitously *employed*, to throw us into *confusion*.

“ With *Pitt* is fallen the *Spirit* of the *Nation*; with *Pitt* are fallen those
 “ *Expectations* of *Indemnification* for the *immense Charge* *Britain* has been
 “ at to defend *ourselves* against the encroachments of *France*, &c. with
 “ him *Public Credit* is *sinking very low*. The *navy*, the *army*, our *allies*,
 “ our *merchants*, and *every one* who sincerely wishes the real happiness and
 “ prosperity of his country, are filled with sorrow and discontent for his
 “ *Refignation*.” (He should have said *Dismission*.) . . . “ To *advise*, or at
 “ least *declare*, that there is no *necessity* to re-instate Mr. *Pitt*,” (with *all*
 the *powers* of the *whole committee* must be understood, for it is so explained
 in the next paragraph,) “ is to *espouse* the *cause* of *France*.”

These are the breathings of this Patriot-Scribe ! . . . In this way it is, that he labours to keep up our *national Harmony* and *Unanimity* : and thus we are gotten between the horns of this cruel dilemma ; that either the pyramid of government must be set on its *point*, or the public become the prey of its own distempers . . .

I do not, however, apprehend, that either will be the case . . . There is, assuredly, too much firmness above, and I persuade myself too much good sense below.

Names, words, and sounds, may amuse and govern us for a while : but reason, truth, and evidence, seldom fail to recover their dominion at last.

On these the *cause* of *Government*, in the present clamorous dispute, may be safely rested . . . At least, according to all the Lights in my power to collect, I think it may.

If therefore, gentlemen, you can be prevailed upon to make a fair and free use of your *own* understandings, and pay but a due regard to your own *most essential interests*, I ask no more.

